

MINUTES

Subject: Minutes for National Oil and Gas Committee Conference Call on Thursday, September 12, 2019

Meeting time: September 12, 2019, 2:00-3:30 PM Eastern Time

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

[NOTE: Regional call-in numbers listed at end of the agenda]

Agenda

2:00 - 2:05 Welcome and roll call – Michael Ege (TCEQ)

States:

R1:

R2:

R3: Allegheny County Health Department, VA, WV

R4: TN

R5: MI, OH

R6: LA, OK, TX

R7: KS

R8: MT, ND, UT, WY

R9:

R10: AK, ID

RPOs:

Julie McDill and Jenny St. Claire, MARAMA

Tom Moore and Mary Uhl, WRAP/WESTAR

EPA:

Jennifer Snyder (OAQPS)

Cindy Beeler (R8)

Amy Hambrick

Contractors:

Mike Pring and Regi Oommen (ERG)

John Grant (Ramboll)

2:05 - 2:10 Review and approval of last conference call meeting notes – Michael Ege (TCEQ)

The meeting notes from the June call were approved. The meeting notes from the July call will be available next month.

2:10 – 2:15 Proposed amendments to the 2012 & 2016 NSPS for Oil and Gas Industry – Amy Hambrick (EPA)

- Prepublication version of the proposal and fact sheet available at:
[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-industry/proposed-policy-amendments-2012-and-2016-new>"]

Amy Hambrick provided an overview of the proposed amendments which were posted on August 28th. The proposed amendments would remove all sources in the transmission and storage segment of the oil and natural gas industry from regulation under the NSPS. The amendments also would rescind the methane requirements in the 2016 NSPS that apply to sources in the production and processing segments of the industry. Alternatively, EPA would rescind the methane requirements that apply to all sources in the oil and natural gas industry, without removing any sources from the current source category.

The proposed amendments should be published in the Federal Register soon, and a public hearing will be coming.

Tom Richardson asked if transmission sources were determined only by NAICS codes, since some non-transmission sources such as gas processing are included in those NAICS.

2:15 – 2:45 Oil & Gas Subcommittee: 2016 Emissions Modeling Platform Update – Tom Richardson (OKDEQ) and Jeff Vukovich (EPA)

- Recap of August 12th and September 9th calls
- WRAP updates – John Grant (Ramboll)
- Next call will be October 7th (potentially last call for subgroup)
- Agendas and minutes for calls can be found at: [HYPERLINK "<http://views.cira.colostate.edu/wiki/wiki/9180>"]

Tom Richardson provided a recap of the August 12th and September 9th modeling platform calls.

The AEO 2019 base case factors are being used to project to the future years (2023 and 2028). For production sources, state historical data is being used to grow from 2014 to 2017 (or 2016 for a handful of states where the 2017 data is not yet available), and then using the AEO 2019 base case factors to grow to 2023 and 2028. For transmission sources, no state historical data is being used; the emissions are being grown using regional factors from the 2019 AEO base case with a floor and a cap to constrain the projections within reasonable bounds.

Alaska and CARB have provided feedback on their emissions, and we are working to incorporate those updates.

John Grant went over the updates being made for WRAP states. One significant update was made to Williston Basin casinghead gas emissions, with the amount vented and flared updated with EIA data. Also, there have been Colorado emission inventory updates. CDPHE provided an emissions inventory for non-tribal lands, while the Southern Ute Indian Tribe provided a 2017 inventory. Emissions from the Ute Mountain Ute tribal lands was based on the WRAP 2014 base year inventory. Finally, gas speciation profiles were updated based on 300 gas composition profiles submitted by operators and state agencies in response to the WRAP survey effort.

The complete WRAP updated base year inventory will be available in late September, while the future year emissions will be available in early to mid October.

Cindy Beeler asked if anyone else had any confusion over terminology, such as the difference between casinghead gas versus associated gas, and raw gas or field gas versus sales gas.

2:45 – 3:10 Storage tank controls and capture efficiency in the EPA oil and gas tool – Mike Pring (ERG) and Jennifer Snyder (EPA)

- Workgroup has held three calls on August 12th, August 27th, and September 6th to discuss the issue
- Proposed short-term changes to oil and gas tool for the 2017 NEI
- ERG will be working on a white paper

Mike Pring went over a set of slides titled “2017 Tool Storage Tank Controls”. This presentation provided an overview of the work that has been done to date to update storage tank controls and capture efficiency in the EPA tool to try to account for observations of vapor capture systems not working correctly. A workgroup has held three calls to discuss the issue and has been working on a proposed default capture efficiency to use in the EPA tool for the 2017 NEI.

Mike Pring indicated that for both crude oil and condensate storage tanks, the EPA tool currently uses a 100% capture efficiency nation-wide. For crude oil storage tanks, most of the country uses a 98% control efficiency default, while three WRAP states use a 90% control efficiency. For condensate storage tanks, most of the country uses a 80% control efficiency default (which is actually a combined capture/control factor), while three WRAP states use a 90% control efficiency and several other states (CenSARA, other WRAP states, West Virginia, and New Mexico) use a 98% control efficiency.

Slide 7 of the presentation included a table showing the states with the highest oil and condensate production, and the basis for storage tank estimates for the NEI (whether each state uses the tool, or uses their own methodologies or estimates, or a combination of the two).

The current condensate storage tank default is a combined 80% capture/control factors. This factor was developed based on the control factor used to estimate methane emissions in the EPA GHG EI and was used in the Tool to reconcile the emissions developed for the NEI with the EPA GHG EI. This 80% combined factor was disaggregated into separate control efficiency and capture efficiency factors, using a 95% control factor based on NSPS OOOOa requirements. This results in an 84% capture efficiency (and an overall 79.8% capture/control factor).

The plan is to use these factors as defaults nationally for the 2017 tool, for both condensate tanks and crude oil tanks. Jennifer Snyder and Mike Pring will confirm this approach with high-producing states that rely on the EPA tool for their emission estimates. If states have any updates, please send them to Jennifer and Mike by October 1st.

Someone asked if they had updated emissions for their state, how would those be submitted to EPA for the NEI. Jennifer Snyder indicated that would be dealt with as needed. Tom Moore asked how we would handle states that don't use the tool to estimate their emissions. Carrie Schroeder asked if an updated version of the EPA tool would be made available for states that want to run it themselves to create the files to submit to the EPA. Jennifer Snyder indicated that an updated tool would be available.

3:10 – 3:20 Recap of the EPA International Emissions Inventory Conference – Jennifer Snyder (EPA)

- Conference held July 29th – August 2nd in Dallas, Texas
- Oil and gas training on Monday July 29th – Regi Oomen (ERG)
- Oil and gas field trip on Wednesday July 31st – Michael Ege (TCEQ)

The EPA EI conference in Dallas was a huge success. The oil and gas training held on the first day of the conference was very informative and was helpful for both new folks and experienced EI staff. The lightning round presentations received great feedback, and may be expanded for the next conference to include the poster sessions.

Jennifer Snyder promised there would be a link provided for the presentations given at the conference, and they are available at: [[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/air-emissions-inventories/2019-international-emissions-inventory-conference-collaborative"](https://www.epa.gov/air-emissions-inventories/2019-international-emissions-inventory-conference-collaborative)]

It was extremely hot day in Dallas for the oil and gas field trip, but the participants learned a lot about gas wellhead and compressor engine sites. CenSARA set up transportation to and from the hotel, and all of the RPO's split the cost for their participants, so a big Thank You to them! The wellhead site was operated by TEP Barnett (a subsidiary of Total), while the adjacent compressor station was operated by Williams Midstream. The wellhead site included four gas wells, four separators, a compressor engine used to operate

plunger lifts on the wells, eight storage tanks, plus piping components and pneumatic devices. The compressor station included multiple compressor engines in a building, a glycol dehydrator and reboiler, an air-cooled heat exchanger, a storage tank, and piping components including a vent. Since the two sites were inside the city (across the street from a Top Golf in fact), there were some design considerations such as a wall on two sides of the compressor engine at the wellhead site (as a sound barrier to the street), storage tanks that had to be less than 10 feet high (leading to the site having 8 small tanks versus a smaller number of larger tanks), and a silencer on the vent stack at the compressor engine site.

Based on the equipment seen on the field trip, Tom Richardson asked if future versions of the EPA tool would include other emission sources at midstream sites. Right now the EPA tool includes midstream compressor engines, but it doesn't include things like piping component fugitives, or storage tanks, etc.

The question also came up as to whether anyone tracks liquids at non-well sites, such as pigging liquids. It was mentioned that in the GHGRP, pigging emissions are included with blowdowns. Cindy Beeler verified that they did come up with a factor to speciate these types of emissions, and to convert the methane emissions reported in the GHGRP to VOC emissions.

3:20 – 3:30 Information & Action Items – Michael Ege (TCEQ)

- Summary of latest content added to the Oil & Gas Emissions Information Repository - Shawn McClure (CIRA): [[HYPERLINK "http://vibe.cira.colostate.edu/ogec/home.htm"](http://vibe.cira.colostate.edu/ogec/home.htm)]
- Action Items

Other topics discussed:

Next call: Thursday, October 10, 2019, 2:00-3:30 PM Eastern Time;
same call in number and confirmation number – Michael Ege (TCEQ)

Please let me know if you have questions or additional topics for this call (or future calls).

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